

### Opera Season at Metropolitan to End Next Week

A special matinee for the benefit of the emergency fund of the Metropolitan Opera Company will be given tomorrow afternoon. The bill will consist of the second act of "La Forza del Destino," with Mmes. Ponselle and Mesdames. Martini and Malatesta. Mr. Ponselle conducting; the third act of "Rigoletto," with Mmes. Barrientos and Mesdames. Harold, de Luca, Ananias, Pico, and Reschiglian. Mr. Moranzoni conducting; the second act of "Tosca," with Miss Farrar and Mesdames. Martini, Scotti, Patrinieri and d'Angelo. Mr. Moranzoni conducting; and the chorus and ballet of the third act of "Samson et Dalila." Miss Lillian Ogden will lead the corps de ballet. Mr. Wolff will conduct.

The Blue Bird will have its last performance this season on next Friday afternoon, when a special matinee will be sung by Mmes. Delaunoy, Ellis, Perini, Gordon, Romaine, Axman, Meliani, Tiffany, Egner, Farnam, Vasari, Kellogg, Berry, Arden and Marsh and Messrs. Chalmers, Rothier, Dua, Laurenti, Bada and Ananias. Mr. Wolff will conduct.

Other operas of the week, the twenty-second and last but one of the season, will be: "L'Oracolo" and "Pagliacci" as a double bill to-morrow evening; the former sung by Mmes. Sundelius and Arden and Messrs. Scotti, Scotti, Didur, d'Angelo and Audisio; "Pagliacci" will be sung by Miss Muzio and Messrs. Caruso, Amato, Laurenti and Bada. Mr. Moranzoni will conduct both operas.

"Madama Butterfly" Wednesday evening, with Mmes. Farrar, Ponia and Kellogg and Messrs. Lazzaro, Scotti, Ananias, Patrinieri, Reschiglian and Audisio, Mr. Moranzoni conducting.

"Le Prophete" on Thursday evening, with Mmes. Matzenauer, Easton, Egner, Meliani, Tiffany and Arden and Messrs. Caruso, Rothier, Martini, Ananias, Reschiglian, Pico, Schlegel, Dua, Audisio and Patrinieri. Miss Galli and Mr. Bonfiglio will dance.

"Eugene Onegin" on Friday evening, with Mmes. Muzio, Perini, Gordon and Howard and Messrs. Martini, de Luca, Didur, d'Angelo, Bada and Pico. Mr. Hodansky will conduct.

"Lucia di Lammermoor" will be the week's Saturday matinee opera, with Mmes. Barrientos and Egner and Messrs. Lazzaro, de Luca, Martini, Dua and Audisio. Mr. Poni will conduct.

"Zaza" will be the week's popular price performance on Saturday evening, with Mmes. Farrar, Egner, Howard, Arden and Tiffany and Miss Quintana and Messrs. Martini, Scotti, Quintana and Duffresne, Amato, Ananias, Bada, Audisio, Malatesta, Patrinieri, d'Angelo and Laurenti. Mr. Moranzoni will conduct.

"Le Villi" at the Capitol

Puccini's first opera "Le Villi" will be heard at the Capitol Theater this week. The cast will include Cesar Nesi, Irene Williams, Caroline Andrews, William Byrd, Irving Miller and an ensemble of seventy singers, a corps of ballet directed by Mme. Sonia Serova, and an augmented orchestra of eighty musicians, under the baton of Nathaniel Finston.

Based upon one of the older legends of Northern Europe, the story of the love-lorn maids and their vengeance upon a peasant man had impressed the French composer, Adam, and the Englishman, Loder, nearly half a century before it fired the genius of young Puccini. Adam chose ballet as the medium, which he brought to the stage in music, bringing forth "Giselle." Loder, like Puccini, made an opera of the tale five years later (1846) under the title "The Night Dancers," to which the folklore original, "The Wills," attached itself and has clung for three-quarters of a century.

As an overture incidental to the big mission picture program, the Capitol Symphony Orchestra will render Rimsky-Korsakov's "Scheherazade," under the direction of Nathaniel Finston. The number will be illuminated by a special stage setting by John Wenger, art director of the Capitol Theater.

### Would-Be Young Folks Welcome 'Come-Back' In 'Wonderful Thing'

When a former ring champion returns to the fray, when an old baseball star dons the uniform again, when a man or woman attempts to hold back the toll exacted by advancing years the public is interested. Ever since Ponce de Leon set out in quest of the fountain of youth, and even before him, the struggle between youth and age has been the most human of struggles. In ring parlance it is said that "they never come back," but there is always the possibility.

On the stage the "come-back" has never failed to score, and in "The Wonderful Thing" at the Playhouse June Marbury in the role of Angelica Mannerby, night, demonstrates this maxim. From a shrewish, unattractive spinster, in drab clothes of severe lines, she becomes a vision of youth in an attractive gown, and immediately the audience responds with applause at the transformation.

The young soldier who had proposed to her twenty years ago, who had been driven away by her sarcasm, returns a general and is to call on her. She tries on the dress which she wore when she was engaged to him. The butler catches a glimpse of her and asks if she is going to a masquerade party. As she bursts into tears, Jacqueline Laurente, played by Jeanne Engels, comes to her assistance with one of her gowns, promising to make her look twenty years younger.

Miss Marbury thinks that the audience responds to the scene because of the "come-back" suggestion, the suggestion that many men and women, after a period of slipping into the rut of old age, make attempts to look as they once did.

Putnam, Herbert and Sousa

To Judge Song Contest

Albert W. Putnam, Victor Herbert and John Philip Sousa will judge the Alumni News Song Contest, it was announced at Columbia University yesterday. The contest, which is for a new football song for Columbia, is open to all students and alumni of the university.

The competition for the \$100 prize to be awarded on commencement day, June 2. The conditions of the contest provide that both words and music must be new and original. The words and music may be the work of a single person or of two individuals in collaboration, but in the award they will be considered as a unit. The winning song will become the property of the Alumni Federation.

W. H. Crane a Screen Actor

William H. Crane, known to two generations of American playgoers as one of the most distinguished stars of the stage, will make his first screen appearance in the role in which he is probably best remembered—that of Nicholas Van Alstyne, in "The New Henrietta," a modern version of Bronson Howard's "The Henrietta." It was in "The Henrietta" that Mr. Crane made his last appearance on the legitimate stage after a long career as co-star with Stuart Robson. Since his retirement he has been living near Los Angeles, and has recently taken an interest in motion pictures that he expressed his desire to make his debut before the camera in his most famous rôle.

Eugene Walter for Films

Eugene Walter, author of "Paid in Full," "The East End Way," and "Fine Feathers," has joined Metro's staff of playwrights and is already at work upon a story for the screen. Mr. Walter is the third distinguished playwright to become associated with Metro within the last few weeks, the other two being Winchell Smith and Bayard Veiller.

Curwood Writes in a Cabin

James Oliver Curwood, whose "The River's End" and "Back to God's Country" have already been adapted for the screen, left New York last week for Michigan, where, in a little log cabin fifteen miles from the nearest railroad, he will write the continuity for "Nomads of the North," his latest novel.

New Screen Invention

An important invention just perfected by Henry Cronjager, Marshall Neilan's head cameraman, provides an attachment for the motion picture camera which will take "still" pictures of the action of the different scenes at the same time that the movies are being taken.

Tom Meighan Back From Cuba

Thomas Meighan, who recently returned from Cuba, where exterior scenes in "Civil War" were made, complains that he was kept so busy while in Havana that he had no opportunity to enjoy the pleasures for which that city is so famous just now.

Henry B. Walthall Returns

After an absence of several months, Henry B. Walthall will come back to the screen in "The Splendid Hazard," the screen version of Harold McGrath's novel.

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This afternoon at 4 o'clock the Music School Settlement, 65 East Third Street, will give its usual monthly concert, to which all the friends of the school are cordially invited.

On the evening of Friday, April 30, at the Waldorf-Astoria, in the Astor gallery, Miss Beatrice Constance, mezzo-soprano, of New York, will make her debut.

Mme. Helen Stanley, soprano, and Josef Lhevinne, pianist, will be heard in concert Tuesday evening at the Metropolitan Opera House. Mme. Stanley will sing in English the soprano part in Wagner's "Tannhauser," "O Arioso Beloved Halls," and a group of American songs. Mr. Lhevinne will be heard in a group of Chopin pieces and in another by Russian composers, ending with the brilliant "Islemye" of Balakireff.

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